January 31, 2020

# ICARC NEWSLETTER

**Officers for 2020:**
President - Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB
Vice President - Harry Dushac K3FSE
Treasurer - Terry Carnahan KB3JOD
Secretary - Chris Edwards N3VFK

**Board Members for 2020:**
1. Dave Dzelsky N3DZ
2. Craig Bigler AB3XA
3. Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
4. Cass Fitzgerald, N3FLO
5. Larry Freeman N3LT

## LOCAL HAPPENINGS:

Next ICARC meeting is on February 4, 2020, at Eat n' Park restaurant in the backroom at 7:30 pm. Hope to see you there. Doug Fitzsimmons is presenting a program on the digital mode FT-8. It should be very interesting so please try to attend.

The ICARC officer are unchanged for the year 2020.

**The yearly ICARC party had nearly record attendance. There were about 28 folks. Definitely a fine gathering.**

Read the tentative December 2019 meeting minutes of ICARC which appear at the end of this document (Courtesy of Chris Edwards, N3VFK)

The new county repeater, WB3CGY, is still operating nicely. The frequency pair is 146.745/146.145 and the PL tone is 131.8. The repeater is now operating at high power, with a 1.5 s hang-time and a courtesy tone.

**Reminder: Several ICARC members meet every Saturday moring for breakfast in the back room of the Indiana Eat n' Park restaurant normally starting between 8:30 and 9:00 AM**

## INTERESTING HAM RADIO NEWS

**(New)** From page 77 of the February issue of QST we noticed that University of Scranton Professor Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, has won a $1.3 million National Science Foundation (NSF) grant. Nathaniel, will be studying weather effects in the ionosphere by leveraging a network of ground-based amateur radio stations. He is designated as the Principle Investigator (PI) and will implement his Distributed Arrays of Small Instruments (DASI) project over three years. As PI, Nathaniel (a space scientist) will head a collaborative team that will develop ground-based space science observation instruments and the necessary software. Nathaniel is also known and respected in the ham radio

community as the founder of HamSCI, the Ham Radio Citizen Investigation initiative. It was an honor and pleasure to have Nathaniel and his family visit the ICARC site at the Jimmy Stewart Airport Festival for the past two years. In fact he operated one of the stations last June at the 2019 event. Hopefully, we will see him and his family again this coming year at the event.

**(New)** February QST on page 75 reports that the FCC is amending the RF exposure safety rules for amateur radio. {Under the revised Section 97.13(c): (1), "In lieu of evaluation with the general population/uncontrolled exposure limits, amateur licensees may evaluate their operation with respect to members of his or her immediate houshold using the occupational/controlled exposure limits in Section 1.1310, provided appropriate training and information has been accessed by the amateur licensee and members of his/her household," the amended rule says.
"RF exposure of other nearby persons who are not members of the amateur licensee's household must be evaluated with respect to the general/uncontrolled exposure limits. Appropiae methodologies and guidance for evaluating Amateur Radio Service operation is described in the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) Bulletin 65, Supplement B," The revised rule concludes.

Meeting with FCC OET Chief Julius Knapp and senior staff in early November, ARRl asked the FCC to make available on the internet a calculator to facilitate making the correct calculations the rules require.}

Note that all text between the curly brackets represents the exact text of the QST article including all grammatical rules and punctuation infractions therein. Do you all remember when sentences were supposed to be short and to the point?

**First ever transatlantic 2 meter QSO reported:**..As reported by Newsline, D41CV, the Manteverde Contest Team in the Cape Verde Islands used 500 watts and a half dozen stacked dipole antennas using the FT8 mode to contact FG8OJ in Guadeloupe who was using 100 watts and a 14 element Yagi antenna. A distance of about 2398 miles was covered and this is longer that the distance between Ireland and Newfoundland.

**New Ham Gear for the International Space Station:** Kenwood has donated two TM-D710GA transceivers to the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program in order to update the equipment on the space station and in the training facilities in Russia. One will replace the aging equipment on the staion and one will be used as a backup for crew training on the ground in Russia.

**QRZ.com Beefs Up its Security:** QRZ is offering its online users enhanced security options. It is now offering registered users the ability to use a "two- factor authentication" (2FA) hoping to make it more difficult for password phishers and fradulant posters. They are also going to require anyone marketing gear through the Swapmeet forum to enroll in its Verified User program.

**Petition Seeks a New Amateur Band at 40 Mhz** : Michelle Bradley, KU3N, a Maryland amateur has filed a petition for rulemaking with the FCC, seeking a secondary amateur frequency allocation at 8 meters in the 40-41 Mhz range. Michelle feels that the new spectrum would spark the next generation of 'Makers' in the fields of science, technology, education, and math ..etc... She notes that since there is currently no mass-produced equipment for this band that "makers" will have to make their own gear. **The petition number is RM-11843**

## OTHER INFORMATION

If anyone would like to include information or write an article for the Newsletter please let Larry Freeman know by email at: wd4hoz@gmail.com .The only caveats are: The editor reserves the right to alter the format for publication purposes. The content may also be modified contingent upon accuracy and appropriateness of the contained material. The latter would, of course, be subject to the approval of the original author.

Please thank Jeffrey Tobin, KC3NJE, for the following heads-up to an event at the Indiana Free Library (http://www.indianafreelibrary.org/node/17549)

**Introduction to Raspberry Pi Part 1 (Registration is Required)**

Date:
Monday, March 23, 2020 - 7:00pm to 8:00pm

Introduction to Raspberry Pi

Details:

The Raspberry Pi is a credit-card sized computer that plugs into your TV and a keyboard. It is a capable little computer which can be used in electronics projects, and for many of the things that your desktop PC does, like spreadsheets, word-processing and games. It also plays high-definition video.

Topics covers will be:

- Introduction to the Raspberry Pi hardware
- How to load and install different images available for the Raspberry Pi
- Installing updates from both a command line interface and Graphical User Interface (GUI)
- Will touch on introductory programming concepts.

No prior programming experience is required. This program is aimed at exposing participants to embedded computing platforms and will provide real world examples of using the Raspberry Pi to interact with physical devices.

Space is limited and registration is required. Ages 12 and up. For more information, call 724-465-8841

Contact Info: Lauri Fletcher

**Indiana County Amateur Radio Club**
**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting 12/03/2019**

**Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Club President Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB with the Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call. The minutes of the November Meeting were read by Club Secretary Chris Edwards N3VFK. They were accepted and approved. Harry Dushac K3FSE read the Financial Report. It was accepted & approved.**

**Old Business: A Holiday Party date is confirmed. January 4th 6:30pm at Hoss's Restaurant in Indiana. All current elected officers were re-elected for next year.**

**New Business: The time on the repeater needs updated to Eastern Standard Time. Doug said that it would be taken care of.**

**End of Business: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, the motion was accepted & the meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.**

**Attendance: 12**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Terry Carnahan KB3JOD** | **Larry Freeman N3LT** |
| **Dave Steiner W3CDH** | **Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB** |
| **Alton Strong N3PHL** | **Mark Strawcutter KC3MLA** |
| **Dave Dzelsky N3DZ** | **Gary Miller KC3NHE** |
| **Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD** | **Harry Dushac K3FSE** |
| **Chris Edwards N3VFK** | **Fred Maize KM3M** |